

Appl. No. 10/024,506  
Amdt. dated August 2, 2004  
Reply to Office Action of March 2, 2004

REMARKS

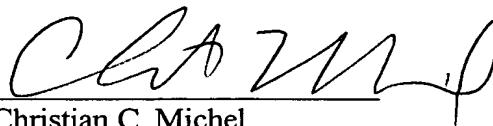
Reconsideration and allowance of the above-identified application are respectfully requested. Upon entry of this Amendment, claims 6, 8-10, 16-17, 20-23, 30, 32-34, 40-44 and 66-69 will be pending.

By the foregoing amendment, claims 1-5, 7, 11-15, 18-19, 24-29, 31, 35-39, and 45-46 have been canceled. Claims 20, 21, 41 and 42 were deemed allowable but objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. Applicants have amended claims 20 and 41 to be in independent form, including all of the limitations of the canceled base claims. Claims 6, 8-10, 16-17, and 22 were amended to depend from claim 20. Claims 30-, 32-34, 40, and 43 were amended to depend from claim 41. Claim 44 was amended to correct a clerical error, and now correctly depends from claim 43. Claims 66-69 are unchanged as they were allowed in the March 2, 2004 office action.

The foregoing amendments are not an admission as to the non-allowability of the canceled claims. Rather, the Applicants intend to pursue the canceled claims in a continuation application that is filed concurrently herewith.

In view of the above, it is believed that the subject application is in condition for allowance and notice to this effect is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,



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